

Department of Defense Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages Working Group Charter

Background

Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS) result for the declining industrial base dedicated to producing military equipment, components, repair parts, and other commodities. DMSMS occur because manufacturers and suppliers discontinue the production of items or materials. Other examples are rapid changes in item or material technology, uneconomical production requirements, foreign source competition, federal environmental and safety requirements, and limited availability and increased costs of items used in the manufacturing process. DMSMS affects readiness and operating costs if unresolved by increasing repair time and reducing weapon system and equipment availability. These problems are an increasing concern as weapon system service life increases and product life-cycle times decrease.

DMSMS impacts are not unique to a single military service or the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). Therefore, the Department of Defense (DoD) needs to coordinate the efforts of its components and other government agencies to develop and implement policies, tools, and processes to resolve or minimize DMSMS impacts. A coordinated effort will minimize the duplication of time and expense to find DMSMS solutions.

Purpose

The DoD DMSMS Working Group (hereafter: Working Group) is the DoD focal point for DMSMS initiatives for the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics).

Mission

The mission of the Working Group is to recommend management techniques, tools, and policies to increase readiness, sustain wartime operations, and reduce life-cycle costs of DoD weapon systems and materiel.

Functions

In accordance with the Working Group Strategic Plan, the Working Group has the following functions:

- Develop recommendations to DoD policy and procedures that will streamline regulations and practices to reduce DMSMS impacts and encourage aggressive and proactive management of DoD systems by both government and industry personnel.
- Promote the utilization of DMSMS management practices through education.
- Develop innovative approaches throughout the weapon system life-cycle to mitigate the impact of DMSMS on DoD systems,
- Coordinate DMSMS activities throughout government and industry to encourage leveraging efforts.
- Measure the effectiveness of the DMSMS program.

Requirement

The Working Group will develop objectives to advance the DMSMS program and publish them in the DMSMS Working Group Strategic Plan. The Working Group will update the plan and brief the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics) on its progress at least annually.

Administration

The Working Group will be chaired by a designated representative of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics).

The Chair will:

- Schedule the time and location of meetings as required
- Develop meeting agendas, schedule speakers and facilitate the meetings
- Brief the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics) on progress of the Working Group
- Periodically brief OSD on progress of the Working Group
- Coordinate revisions to the Strategic Plan and distribute to members as necessary
- Develop draft meeting minutes and action items and distribute them to members within 10 working days of each meeting and distribute the final minutes and action items 10 working days after comments are received
- Appoint ad hoc subgroups
- Represent the Working Group to the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics) regarding policy changes

Core member organizations that have voting authority are the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, DLA, Government Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP), and the Defense Microelectronics Activity (DMEA). As the DoD Executive Agent for integrated circuit microelectronics DMSMS, DMEA will consolidate all microelectronics-related DMSMS issues and report its findings to the DMSMS Working Group. When established, similar executive agents will also be included as members. Other organizations, such as the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, may be invited to participate.

Each core member organization will provide a permanent representative and alternate to the Working Group. Personnel selected to serve on the Working Group need to be knowledgeable on DMSMS issues and have authority to represent their organizations. Core members will keep the Chair apprised of the current representative or designee for their organization. They will also support the responsibilities of the Chair.